

# **FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

## **HB 3687 – SB 3894**

April 4, 2008

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (016402):** Creates a pilot project to establish voting centers in one or more municipalities willing to participate in the project at their municipal elections to be held in 2009. A municipality will indicate its willingness to participate by adopting a resolution by a majority vote of its legislative body and forwarding the resolution to the county election commission where it must be approved by at least four of the five county election commissioners. The participating municipality or municipalities will be selected by the State Election Coordinator. The State Election Coordinator will file a report with the State and Local Government Committees of each house by January 31 following any municipal election conducted under the pilot project.

### **FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

Increase Local Expenditures – Net Impact - \$33,100/Permissive

### **FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

#### **Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- Since the bill would allow but would not require municipalities to participate in the project, the number of municipalities that would choose to participate and be selected by the State Election Coordinator cannot be determined.
- The cost of the project would be dependent upon the number of municipalities that actually participate and the size of such municipalities.
- Larger municipalities would be more likely to participate since smaller municipalities have fewer polling locations and would have no need to consolidate.
- One average size municipality would participate in the pilot project.
- For an average size municipality, the net increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$33,065.
- The increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$35,840 for the following:

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- Cost for election officials to conduct 18 days at 4 sites over normal cost - \$23,640
- Communication lines - \$1,200
- Hardware costs (unless county already owns the hardware) - \$5,000
- Extra expense incurred for printing & mailing notices to households - \$6,000
- The decrease in local expenditures is estimated to be \$2,775 for the following:
  - Posting election history after Election Day for each Election Day voter - \$500
  - Labor savings on preparing ballot boxes - \$375
  - Elimination of signature list, applications for ballot, etc. - \$900
  - Voting machine expense reduction for fewer machines and universal ballot - \$800
  - Reduction in school of instruction cost - \$200
- Total net increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$33,065 (\$35,840 - \$2,775 = \$33,065).
- Any cost to the State Election Coordinator to evaluate the pilot project and prepare a report can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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